

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1-22 (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) An image data retrieval apparatus comprising:

a database for registering a plurality of images;

a display unit for displaying an image registered in the image database;

a designator for designating an image area of the registered image displayed on the display unit; and

a controller for cutting out image data corresponding to the registered image data and retrieving a desired image data containing image data which is identical or analogous to the image data cut out from the database, wherein the cutout image data ~~corresponds to~~ is the actual image of the displayed image.

24. (Previously presented) The image data retrieval apparatus of claim 23, wherein the image corresponding to the image area is an image of a face of a person.

25-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) An image data retrieval method comprising:

registering a plurality of images in a database;

displaying an image registered in the database on a display unit;

designating an image area of the registered image displayed on the display unit;

cutting out image data corresponding to the designated image area of the registered image;

and

retrieving a desired image containing image data which is identical or analogous to the image data cut out from the registered image, wherein the cutout image data ~~corresponds to~~ is the actual image of the displayed image.

28. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having program code stored thereon which, when executed by a machine, causes the machine to perform a method for retrieving image data from an image database, the method executed by said machine comprising:

registering a plurality of images in a database;

displaying an image registered in the database on a display unit;

designating an image area of the registered image displayed on the display unit;

cutting out image data corresponding to the designated image area of the registered image;

and

retrieving a desired image containing image data which is identical or analogous to the image data cut out from the registered image, wherein the cutout image data ~~corresponds to~~ is the actual image of the displayed image.